

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENT

1. Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 27 page 12 with the following amended paragraph:

The geology models 58 provide rock column characteristic input 54a to the drilling simulator processor 52. The characteristics of the rock column include at least one or more of lithology, rock strength, shale plasticity, log data, and porosity. With respect to the characteristics of lithology, rock strength, and shale plasticity, one or more of the respective characteristics may be derived from log data and a respective lithology model, rock strength model, and shale plasticity model. Log data 64 can include one or more of well logs, mud logs, core data, and bit records. In a preferred embodiment, the geology models include those disclosed in co-pending U.S. patent application Serial No. ~~091649,495~~ 09/649,495, entitled "Method and System for Predicting the Performance of a Drilling System for a Given Formation" filed Aug. 8, 2000, which is a continuation-in-part application of Serial No. ~~091192,389~~ 09/192,389, filed Nov. 13, 1998, now U.S. Pat. No. 6,109, 368, incorporated herein by reference.

2. Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 15 page 13 with the following amended paragraph:

The drilling mechanics models 60 provide drilling rig system characteristic input 54b to the drilling simulator processor 52. It is noted that the drilling rig system characteristics can include characteristics of more than one drilling rig system, wherein characteristics for a single drilling rig system are utilized in connection with a respective iteration of drilling simulation. In a preferred embodiment, the drilling mechanics models include those disclosed in co-pending U.S. patent application Serial No. ~~091649,495~~ 09/649,495, entitled "Method and System for Predicting the Performance of a Drilling System for a Given Formation" filed Aug. 8, 2000,

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PATENT APPLICATION
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